

Mr. Gary Kushner

Senior Program Manager, Lockheed Martin – Advanced Technology Center

Mr. Kushner has over 32 years' experience in space flight programs with 19 of those in program management. Gary is currently the Project Manager for the MUSE Midex Mission at Lockheed Martin. MUSE is a NASA Class C Heliophysics Mission that will reveal the physical processes that dominate the heating of the solar corona and that drive space weather. Prior to MUSE, Gary was Program Manager for the Interface Region Imaging Spectrograph (IRIS), a NASA Heliophysics Small Explorers (SMEX) mission. The IRIS mission includes the instrument (a high-resolution multi-channel spectrograph), spacecraft, mission operations, ground data system, and science data pipeline. IRIS was launched June 27, 2013, and continues through its extended science operations phase.

Mr. Kushner was also program manager for GeoCarb, an Earth Ventures Instrument, and the Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA) instrument suite that is part of the NASA Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO). AIA has successfully operated on orbit for greater than 13 years producing over 260 million images of the sun in multiple wavelengths.

Prior experience includes systems engineering for the Focal Plane Package (FPP) on the Hinode mission (2007) and integration and test engineer for the NASA Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer (FUSE) mission (1999).